

Cambridge Public Library
Board of Library Trustees
Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held on Monday, March 17, 2003 in the Director's Office of the Main Library. The following members of the Board of Library Trustees were present:

- Janet Axelrod
- Andre Mayer
- Patricia Payne
- Nancy Woods

also present:

- Susan Flannery, Director of Libraries
- Bertha Chandler, Assistant Director
- Madeline Amorosi, Assistant Director
- Marilyn Galalis, Administrative Assistant

Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Correspondence was acknowledged from Bharat Bhatt and Christopher O'Neill.

The Board reported on P.R. assignments. Nancy Woods will host the Cambridge Historical Society in September or October. Janet Axelrod will host at her Temple on any Saturday (to be determined by Ms. Flannery & Janet Axelrod). Patricia Payne has asked Margaret McKenna, the President of Lesley to host a tea in September. Susan Flannery has scheduled dates this month to speak at the Cambridge Community Center, 1010 Memorial Drive, Northeastern University and Simmons College during the next month.

Ms. Flannery offered tickets to the Arbuthnot Lecture to each Board member.

The Pet Peeve issue this month: How do we improve the interface of the electronic card catalog? There is no simple answer. Although the Minuteman Library Network system is changing software in July, there is no guarantee that everyone will adapt easier. It is purely a new software program providing the same service in a different format. The Minuteman Network makes these decisions. This is not a decision made independently by the Cambridge Public library. We will adopt a "wait and see approach" until the new system is up and running.

Madeline Amorosi, the new Assistant Director for Public Services was introduced to the Board. Madeline provided an overview of her experience and interests. Board members welcomed her and offered any assistance she may need.

Susan Flannery reported on Library Legislative Day and suggested to trustees that they host a Legislative Breakfast with Trustees from Newton, Brookline as well as Cambridge to discuss concerns. Janet Axelrod will contact Brookline Trustees to determine if there is any interest.

Ms. Flannery informed the Board that several citizens had approached Alan Burne about locating the full expansion of the Main Library underground. The Board was adamant that the current design was fully vetted in a thorough public process over the course of many years. Any attempt to alter the plan in such a substantial way would be undemocratic. The Board declined to write a letter rendering its opinion on the design noting that it was not the result of a public process.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, April 14, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library.

Andre Mayer, Secretary
Action Items:

- Janet Axelrod to contact Councillors Reeves and Decker concerning new library design issues
- Janet Axelrod to contact Brookline Public Library Trustees
- Nancy Woods to contact Richard Rossi regarding library design process.

